(iii) Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehend and prosecute wildlife offenders.

(iv) Government of India has set up Regional and Sub-regional Offices for wildlife preservation in major export and trade centers of the country to prevent smuggling of wild animals and their products.

Steps taken at State level:

(i) The field staff have been alerted to be on the look out for any poaching activity in their jurisdiction.

(ii) Wide publicity is given through media on the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 against poaching.

'iii) Regular patrolling is being organized by the field officers by formation of special parties

Strict vigil is maintained through effective communication systems.

The Government of Andhra Pradesh has set up a separate ɜillance Cell under the control of the Assistant Conservator of sts in the Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests to ıitor the anti-poaching measures and co-ordinate with the field officers revention of poaching and illegal trade of wild animals and their ›ducts.

Clearance of Schemes

3732. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes pending for clearance with Government, as on date, State-wise;

(b) what is the time-frame by which projects are generally cleared by Government; and

(c) the details of projects for which permission has been refused/withheld, State-wise indicating reasons for each?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) 893 projects were pending with the Government as on 30th April, 2006 for environmental and forest clearance. The details of the said projects (State-wise) are available on the website of the Ministry (http://envfor.nic.in).

(b) As per Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 1994, the time frame for granting environmental clearance is 120 days from the date of submission of complete information. A time frame of 60 days is prescribed for the cases of diversion of forest land received from the State Government/ Union Territory, complete in all respect.

(c) Four projects have been refused environmental clearance during the last three years. The details are given in statement.

Statement

List of projects refused permission during last three years:

S.No.	Name of the project	Date of rejection	Reasons
	Thermal Power Project		
1.	2x500 MW Durgapur Steel Thermal Power Station at Durgapur, **West Bengal** by M/s. Damodar Valley Corporation.	19.10.2004	The project was reje on environmenta; considerations.
	River Valley & Hydroelectric Projects		
2.	Sidumber Reservoir Project, Distt. Valsad, **Gujarat**, of Department of Irrigation.	15.09.2004	The project was rejected due to large families.
	Mining Project		
3.	Dhauj Silica Sand Mining Project in **Haryana** of Shri Ramesh Chand.	02.05.2005	The project was rejected on environmental considerations.
	Infrastructure & Miscellaneous Projects		
4.	Proposal from M/s. Ganesh Benzoplast Ltd., Mumbai, **Maharashtra** to handle Class 'A' Chemicals through BPCL Jetty, JNPT and Nhava Sheva, Mumbai.	10.05.2005	Provision of the Coastal Regulation zone Notification, 1991 do not permit the same.